



SUBDISTRICT FILE #94417-0858  
United States Department of the Interior

MINING ENFORCEMENT AND SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Oliver Road  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
PRINCETON, WEST VIRGINIA 24740

Coal Mine Health and  
Safety District 4

January 4, 1977

Memorandum

To: Jack F. McManus, Subdistrict Manager

From: S. E. Gaspersich, Coal Mine Safety Specialist  
Robert E. Nesbit, Coal Mine Inspector

Subject: Report on investigation of coal outburst, Beatrice Mine,  
Beatrice Pocahontas Company, Keen Mountain, Buchanan County,  
Virginia, October 31, 1976

A coal outburst was reported to the writers November 1, 1976, that occurred during the preceding idle weekend. The outburst occurred along the left coal rib near the tailpiece of the pony belt serving the No. 9 unit section in the subject mine. There was no damage or injuries and nobody was in the vicinity. The occurrence was revealed during the preshift examination. The oncoming shift loaded about 1½ shuttle cars of loose coal which was displaced along both ribs along the belt and tailpiece.

The investigation made on November 2, 1976, revealed that mining sequences were in accordance with the recommended and adopted plan. Physical conditions were uniform except that the floor in the vicinity of the tailpiece was very resistant to heaving and the roof conditions were adverse. It was recommended that a "bump cut" be made in the adjacent chain pillar to effect stress relief and/or anticipate undue loading during pillar recovery. The "bump cut" was mined without excessive reaction.

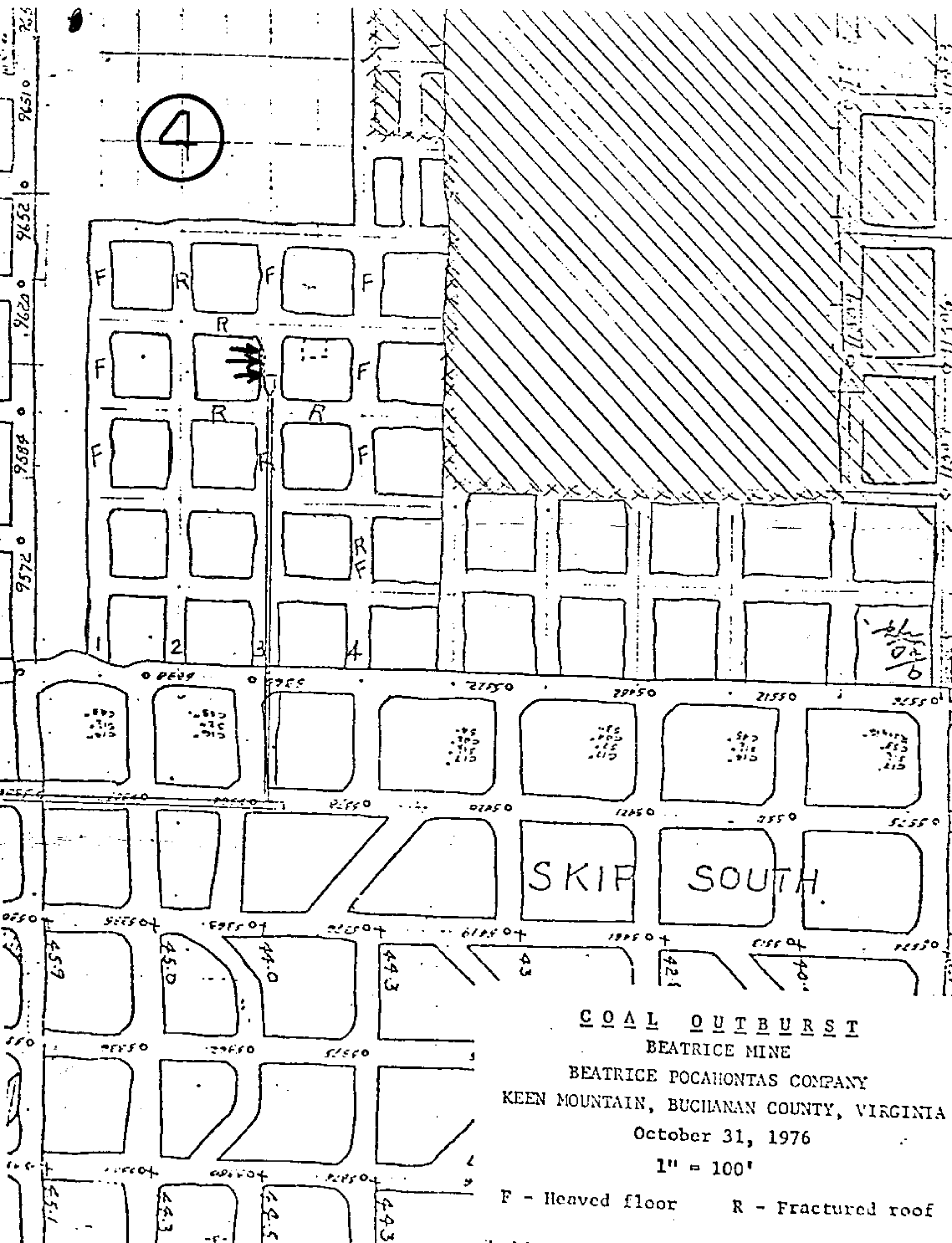
Frequent visits were made subsequently and it was apparent that the major build-up of energy will be in the undeveloped pillar remnant during its reduction. Rooms on 35-foot centers were being driven as recommended to effect reduced build-up and dissipation of energy; however, frequent visits will be made to keep abreast of any change in physical conditions in order to ascertain the feasibility of the mining plan.

*S. E. Gaspersich*  
S. E. Gaspersich

*Robert E. Nesbit*  
Robert E. Nesbit

Attachment:  
Sketch of coal outburst area  
cc: H. H. Potter

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COAL OUTBURST  
BEATRICE MINE  
BEATRICE POCAHONTAS COMPANY  
KEEN MOUNTAIN, BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
October 31, 1976  
1" = 100'  
F - Heaved floor      R - Fractured roof